



Eric M. Hocky Direct Dial 215 640 8523 Email ehocky@thorpree 22600

ATTORNEYS AT LAW SINCE 1895

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Cynthia T. Brown Chief, Section of Administration Office of Proceedings Surface Transportation Board 395 E Street SW Washington, DC 20024

November 16, 2009

Re:

East Tennessee Railway, L.P.

- Exempt Abandonment -In Washington and Carter Counties, TN STB Docket No. AB-1031 (Sub-No. X)

FEE RECEIVED

NOV 1 7 2009

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Dear Ms. Brown:

Enclosed for filing please find the original and 10 copies of the Notice of Exempt Abandonment of East Tennessee Railway, L.P. Also enclosed is our check in the amount of \$3700 representing the filing fee for this Notice.

Please time stamp the extra copy of the Notice to indicate receipt and return it to me in the self-addressed stamped envelope provided for your convenience.

Please let know if there are any questions about the filing. Thank you for your assistance.

Respectfully.

Pittsburgh

Philadelphia

Princeton

Wheeling

Thorp Reed & Armstrong, LLP One Commerce Square 2005 Market Street **Suite 1000** Philadelphia, PA 19103-7041 215 640 8500 215 640 8501 Fax

EMH/e

Enclosures

cc: ETRY (by email; w/encl.)

All persons on service list (by mail; w/encl.)

NOV 1 7 2009

Part of **Public Record**

226007
Office of Proceedings

NOV 1 7 2009 Part of Public Record



Before the

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

STB Docket No. AB-1031 (Sub. No. X)

EAST TENNESSEE RAILWAY, L.P.

- EXEMPT ABANDONMENT -

IN WASHINGTON AND CARTER COUNTIES, TN

NOTICE OF EXEMPT ABANDONMENT

FEE RECEIVED

NOV 1 7 2009

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

ERIC M. HOCKY
THORP REED & ARMSTRONG, LLP
One Commerce Square
2005 Market Street, Suite 1000
Philadelphia, PA 19103
(215) 640-8500

Attorneys for East Tennessee Railway, L.P.

Dated: November 16, 2009

Before the SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

STB Docket No. AB-1031 (Sub. No. X)

EAST TENNESSEE RAILWAY, L.P. - EXEMPT ABANDONMENT IN WASHINGTON AND CARTER COUNTIES, TN



NOTICE OF EXEMPT ABANDONMENT

East Tennessee Railway, L.P. ("Applicant" or "ETRY") is seeking an exemption to abandon a segment of its line of railroad between Milepost 1.2 in the City of Johnson City, Tennessee, and the end of the line at Milepost 11.2 in the City of Elizabethton, Tennessee (the "Line"). ETRY acquired the Line in 1983; there has been no local or overhead freight service on the Line for over seven years.

This Notice of Exempt Abandonment is being filed pursuant to the requirements of 49 C.F.R. §1152.50. In accordance with such requirements, Applicant hereby states as follows:

- 1. The exact name of Applicant is East Tennessee Railway, L.P.
- 2. Applicant is a common carrier by railroad subject to 49 U.S.C. Subtitle IV, chapter 105. Applicant originally acquired the Line in 1983. *East Tennessee Railway Corp. Exemption from 49 USC 10901 and 11301*, ICC Finance Docket No. 30204 (served July 14, 1983)(not published).
- 3. The relief sought is the abandonment of a line of railroad between Milepost 1.2 in the City of Johnson City, Washington County, Tennessee, and the end of the line at Milepost 11.2 in the City of Elizabethton, Carter County, Tennessee.
 - 4. A detailed map of the Line is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

5. The representative of Applicant to whom correspondence should be sent is:

Eric M. Hocky, Esquire THORP REED & ARMSTRONG, LLP One Commerce Square 2005 Market Street, Suite 1000 Philadelphia, PA 19103 (215) 640-8500

- 6. The Line to be abandoned traverses United States Postal Service ZIP Code 13502.
- 7. Applicant believes that the right of way may be suitable for trail use or other public purposes. Information in Applicant's possession regarding any restrictions on title will be made available by Applicant on reasonable request.
 - 8. Applicant proposes to consummate the abandonment on or after January 6, 2010.
 - 9. Applicant certifies that:
- (a) No local or overhead traffic has moved over the Line since 2002, over seven years. Because this is not a through line, there was no overhead traffic on the line.
- (b) No formal complaint by a user of rail service on the Line, or a state or local government entity acting on behalf of such user, regarding cessation of service over the Line either is pending with the Board or any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of the complainant within the two year period.
- 10. Although no employees of Applicant will be affected by the proposed discontinuance, Applicant recognizes that this abandonment will be made subject to the employee protective conditions in *Oregon Short Line Railroad Co.--Abandonment--Goshen*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979).
- 11. Applicant filed an Environmental/Historic Report with the Board on October 23,2009. Applicant is provided supplemental information regarding responses received since the

original Report was filed, in a letter being filed with the Board together with this Notice of

Exemption.

12. Applicant has complied with the notice requirements of 49 C.F.R. §1105.11. On

October 27, 2009, notice was published in the Johnson City Press and in The Elizabethton Star.

Copies of the proofs of publication are attached as Exhibit B.

13. Applicant has complied with the notice requirements of 49 C.F.R. §1152.50(d)(1).

Copies of the notices dated October 29, 2009, sent to governmental agencies are attached hereto

as Exhibit C.

For the reasons set forth above, the Board should find that Applicant's proposed

abandonment satisfies the exemption requirements of 49 C.F.R. §1152, and should issue the

appropriate notice.

Respectfully submitted,

THORP REED & ARMSTRONG, LLP

One Commerce Square

2005 Market Street, Suite 1000

Philadelphia, PA 19103

(215) 640-8500

Attorneys for East Tennessee Railway, L.P.

Dated: November 16, 2009

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-3-

VERIFICATION

I hereby verify on behalf of East Tennessee Railway, L.P., under penalty of perjury, that the foregoing is true and correct. Further, I certify that I am qualified and authorized to file this Verification.

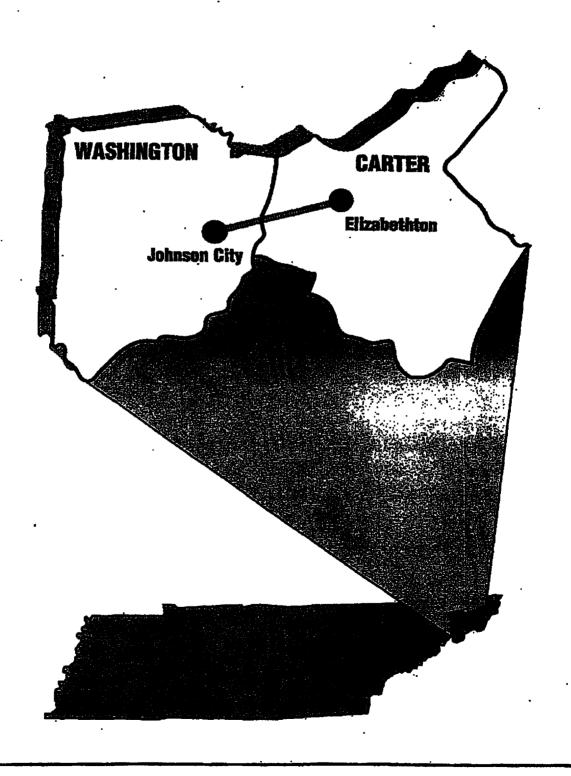
Executed on November 16, 2009.

William A. Jasper, President

EXHIBIT A - MAP

{P0085251}

East Tennessee Railway, L.P.



JOHNSON CITY QUADRANGLE TENNESSEE 7.5-MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC) 3 100 000 FRET 82" 15" 3 100 000 FRET 82" 22" 30" ENT OF AGRICULTURE EST SERVICE

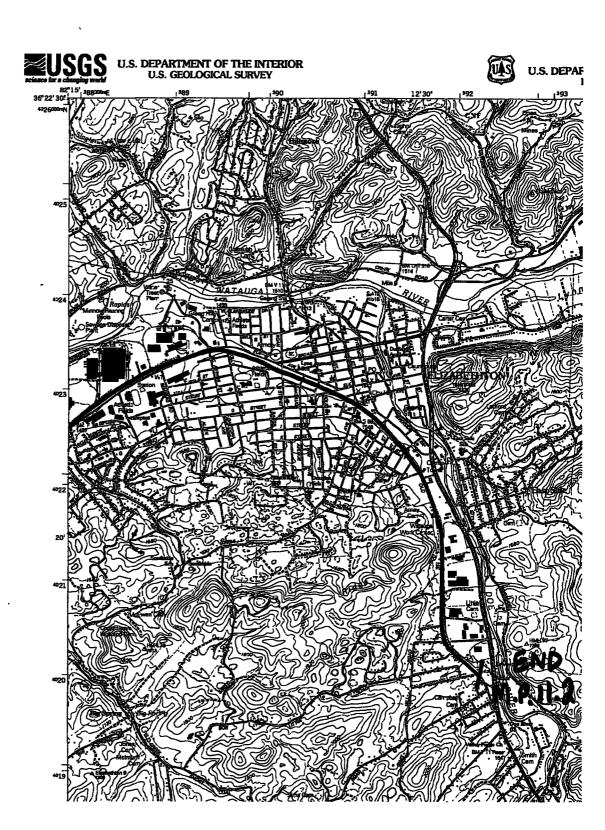


EXHIBIT B – NEWSPAPER NOTICES

{P0085251}

STATE OF TENNESSEE COUNTY OF CARTER

COUNTY BEING DULY SWORN, DEPOSETH AND SAITH THAT SHE IS THE ASSISTANT TREASURER OF THE ELIZABETHTON STAR, A NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED AT ELIZABETHTON IN THE COUNTY OF CARTER, STATE OF TENNESSEE, AND THE ORDER AND NOTICE, OF WHICH IS ANNEXED IS A TRUE COPY, WHICH WAS PUBLISHED IN SAID PAPER FOR DECONSECUTIVE WEEKS,

COMMENCING ON THE 27 DAY OF 164, 20 09

AND ENDING ON THE 27 DAY OF 100, 20 09

Mangant Luttule

Sworn to and subscribed before me this the 27 day of 1,20 09

NOTARY PUBLIC

My commission expires November 27, 2010

NOTICE OF INTENT

East Tennessee Railway. L.P. ("ETRY"): gives notice that on or about November 12, 2009; Intends to file with the Surface Transportation Board. Washington, DC-20423, a notice of paemption pursuant to the provisions of 49 CFR 1152 Subpart Funder STB Docket No. AB-1031 (Sub-No. X) permitting the abandonment of a segment of its line of railroad, which runs in an easierly direction from Milepost 1.2 In the City of Johnson City in Washington County, Tennessee ("Subject Line"). This Subject Line traverses through United States Postal Zip Codes 37605, and 37643.

The Board's Section of Environmental Assessment (EA), which will normally be available 25 anotice of exemption, or 60 days after the filling if ETRY files a petition for exemption. Comments on environmental and energy matters should be filed no later than 15 days (in the case of a petition), after the EA becomes available to the public and will be addressed in a Board decision: Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA or make inquiries regarding environmental matters by writing to the SEA. Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) Surface Transportation, Board, 395. E. Street, S.W. Washington, DC 20423-0001 or by calling that office at (202) 245-0295.

Appropriate offers of financial assistance to continue rall service can be filed with the Board Requests for environmental conditions, public use conditions, or fall banking/trails use also can be filed with the Board An original and 10 copies of any pleading that raises matters other than environmental issues (such as trails use, public use, and offers of financial assistance) must be filed directly with the Board's Office of the Secretary. Surface, Transportation, Board, 395 ErStreet S.W. Washington, DG 20423-0001 [See 49 CFR 1104.1(a) and 1304.3(a)], and one copy must be served on applicants representative [See 49 CFR 1104.12(a)]. Questions regarding offers of financial assistance, public use or palls use may be directed to the Board's Office of Public Assistance, Governmental Affairs and Compliance at (202) 245-0238. Copies of any comments or requests for conditions should be served on the applicant's representative. Eric M. Hocky, Esquire, Thorp Reed & Amistrong LLP, One Commerce, Square, 2005 Market Street, Suite 1000, Philadelphia, RA 19103.

JOHNSON CITY PRESS

204 W. Main St., Johnson City, TN 37604

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

AD #: 838132

DATES: 10/27/2009

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NOTICE OF INTENT TO ABANDON RATE SERVICE

East Tennessee Rativey, L.P. (ETHY) gives notice that or or or about, November 12, 2009, it intends to file with the Surface of assistance to the provisions of 148 CFR [12]. Subject Famespotation Board, Washington DC 20423, a notice of assistance of the provisions of 148 CFR [12]. Subject Famespotation Found to the provisions of 148 CFR [12]. Subject Famespotation for the provisions of the continued which runs in an easiety director from Milerost 12 in the CRY of the provisions of the continued which runs in an easiety director from Milerost 12 in the CRY of Jelizabethon, Carter, County, Tennessee (Subject Line): This Subject Line tractions of the county of the provisions through Milerost 112 in the CRY of Jelizabethon, Carter, County, Tennessee (Subject Line): This Subject Line tractions through Milerost 112 in the CRY of Jelizabethon, Carter, County, Tennessee (Subject Line): This Subject Line tractions through Milerost 112 in the CRY of Jelizabethon, Carter, County, Tennessee (Subject Line): This Subject Line tractions through Milerost 12 in the CRY of Jelizabethon, Carter, County, Tennessee (Subject Line): This Subject Line tractions through Milerost 12 in the CRY of Jelizabethon, Carter, Carter, Milerost 12 in the CRY of Jelizabethon, Carter, Milerost 12 in t

EXHIBIT C – 10 DAY NOTICES

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Carol D. Lydon Paralegal Direct Dial 215 640 8500 Email clydon@thorpreed.com

ATTORNEYS AT LAW SINCE 1895

VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL

United States Department of the Army Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command

October 29, 2009

Transportation Engineering Agency ATTN: SDTE-SA (Railroads for National Defense) 709 Ward Drive, Building 1990

Scott AFB, IL 62225-5357

East Tennessee Railway, L.P. - Abandonment - Washington and Carter

Counties, TN

STB Docket No. AB-1031(X)

Dear Sir/Madam:

Re:

This letter is to advise you that East Tennessee Railway, L.P. ("ETRY") will be filing a verified notice of exempt abandonment pursuant to the provisions of 49 C.F.R. §1152.50. The notice will be filed with the Surface Transportation Board on or about November 12, 2009. ETRY will be seeking an exemption to abandon a segment of its line of railroad which runs in an easterly direction from Milepost 1.2 in the City of Johnson City in Washington County, Tennessee to Milepost 11.2 in the City of Elizabethton, Carter County, Tennessee. This line traverses through United States Postal Zip Codes 37605 and 37643.

Based on information in ETRY's possession, the line does not contain federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in the railroad's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

At this time, ETRY plans to salvage the track and track materials. It has not determined whether to re-use them on its remaining lines or on the lines of its affiliates, or to sell them to a third party.

ETRY filed an Environmental/Historic Report with the Surface Transportation Board on October 22, 2009, and will provide a copy upon request.

Thorp Reed & Armstrong, LLP One Commerce Square 2005 Market Street Suite 1000 Philadelphia, PA 19103 7041

215 640 8500 215 640 8501 Fax

Pittsburgh Philadelphia

Princeton Wheeling

> CC: **ETRY**

> > Eric M. Hocky, Esquire

CDL0006 DOC



Carol D. Lydon
Paralegal
Direct Dial 215 640 8500
Email: clydon@thorpreed.com

ATTORNEYS AT LAW SINCE 1895

VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL

Office of Chief of Forest Service U.S. Department of Agriculture 1400 Independence Ave., SW Washington, DC 20250-003 October 29, 2009

Re:

East Tennessee Railway, L.P. - Abandonment - Washington and Carter

Counties, TN

STB Docket No. AB-1031(X)

Dear Sir/Madam:

This letter is to advise you that East Tennessee Railway, L.P. ("ETRY") will be filing a verified notice of exempt abandonment pursuant to the provisions of 49 C.F.R. §1152.50. The notice will be filed with the Surface Transportation Board on or about November 12, 2009. ETRY will be seeking an exemption to abandon a segment of its line of railroad which runs in an easterly direction from Milepost 1.2 in the City of Johnson City in Washington County, Tennessee to Milepost 11.2 in the City of Elizabethton, Carter County, Tennessee. This line traverses through United States Postal Zip Codes 37605 and 37643.

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Very truly yours,

Carol D. Lydon

Thorp Reed & Armstrong, LLP One Commerce Square 2005 Market Street Suite 1000 Philadelphia, PA 19103-7041 215 640 8500 215 640 8501 Fax

CC: ETRY

Eric M. Hocky, Esquire

CDL0005.DOC



Carol D. Lydon
Paralegal
Direct Dial 215 640 8500
Email: clydon@thorpreed.com

ATTORNEYS AT LAW SINCE 1895

VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL

U.S. Department of the Interior -National Park Service RTCA Program (Org code 2240) 1849 C Street, NW Washington, DC 20240

October 29, 2009

Re:

East Tennessee Railway, L.P. - Abandonment - Washington and Carter

Counties, TN

STB Docket No. AB-1031(X)

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Pittsburgh

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Princeton

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Thorp Reed & Armstrong, LLP One Commerce Square 2005 Market Street Suite 1000 Philadelpnia, PA 19103-7041 215 640 8500 215 640 8501 Fax

CC: ETRY

Eric M. Hocky, Esquire

CDL0004 DOC



Carol D. Lydon
Paralegal
Direct Dial 215 640 8500
Ernall: clydon@thorpreed.com

ATTORNEYS AT LAW SINCE 1895

VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL

Tennessee Department of Transportation 505 Deaderick Street Suite 700 Nashville, TV 37243 October 29, 2009

Re:

East Tennessee Railway, L.P. - Abandonment - Washington and Carter

Counties, TN

STB Docket No. AB-1031(X)

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Philadelphia

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Wheeling

Very truly yours,

Carol D. Lydon

Thorp Reed & Armstrong, LLP One Commerce Square 2005 Market Stree: Suite 1000 Philadelphia, PA 19103-7041 215 640 8500 215 640 8501 Fax

CC: ETRY

Eric M. Hocky, Esquire



Carol D. Lydon
Paralegal
Direct Dial 215 640 8500
Email. clydon@thorpraed.com

ATTORNEYS AT LAW SINCE 1895

VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL

Mary W. Freeman, Director Tennessee Regulatory Authority 460 James Robertson Parkway | Nashville, TN 37243 October 29, 2009

Re:

East Tennessee Railway, L.P. - Abandonment - Washington and Carter

Counties, TN

STB Docket No. AB-1031(X)

Dear Ms. Freeman:

This letter is to advise you that East Tennessee Railway, L.P. ("ETRY") will be filing a verified notice of exempt abandonment pursuant to the provisions of 49 C.F.R. §1152.50. The notice will be filed with the Surface Transportation Board on or about November 12, 2009. ETRY will be seeking an exemption to abandon a segment of its line of railroad which runs in an easterly direction from Milepost 1.2 in the City of Johnson City in Washington County, Tennessee to Milepost 11.2 in the City of Elizabethton, Carter County, Tennessee. This line traverses through United States Postal Zip Codes 37605 and 37643.

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Philadelphia

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Very truly yours.

Carol D. Lydon

Thorp Roed & Armstrong, LLP One Commerce Square 2005 Market Street Suite 1000 Philadelphia, PA 19103-7041 215 640 8500 215 640 8501 Fax

CC: ETRY

Eric M. Hocky, Esquire

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this date a copy of the foregoing Notice of Exempt Abandonment was served on the following persons shown on the attached list by first class mail, postage prepaid.

ERIC M. HOCK

Dated: November 16, 2009

State of Tennessee Office of Freight & Rail Suite 1800 James K. Polk Bldg. Nashville, TN 37243

Tennessee Dept. of Environmental Conservation L & C Annex, 1st Floor 401 Church Street Nashville, TN 37243

Tennessee Dept. of Environmental Conservation Johnson City Field Office 2305 Silverdale Road Johnson City, TN 37601-2162

Tennessee Dept. of Environmental Conservation Ground Water Protection Alan Schwendimann, Director 10th Floor, L & C Tower 401 Church Street Nashville, TN 37243

George Jaynes, County Mayor Washington County Courthouse in Jonesborough P.O. Box 219 Jonesborough, TN 37659

Johnny Holder, County Mayor Carter County 801 East Elk Avenue, Suite 201 Elizabethton, TN 37643 U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Resident Agency in Charge Office 222 Great Circle Road Suite 150 Nashville, TN 37228-1738

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Civil Works Office U.S. Army Engineer District – Nashville P.O. Box 1070 110 Ninth Ave. S Nashville, TN 37202-1070

National Park Service, Southeast Region David Vela, Regional Director National Park Service 100 Alabama Street, SW 1924 Building Atlanta, GA 30303

Tennessee Natural Resources Conservation Service Kevin Brown, State Conservationist 675 U.S. Courthouse 801 Broadway Nashville, TN 37203

Natural Resources Conservation Service Dave Merinar, District Conservationist Elizabethton Service Center 419 Elk Ave. Elizabethton, TN 37643-2596

Natural Resources Conservation Service Gary Ovillen, District Conservationist Jonesborough Service Center 1105 E. Jackson Street Jonesborough, TN 37659-4775 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 4 Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center 61 Forsyth Street, SW Atlanta, GA 30303-8960

Mr. Richard A. Snay Chief, Spatial Reference System Division United States Department of Commerce NOAA, N/NGS2 SSMC3, Room 8828 1315 East-West Highway Silver Spring, MD 20910

E. Patrick McIntyre, Jr., Executive Director Tennessee Historical Commission 2941 Lebanon Road Nashville, TN 37243-0442

United States Department of the Army Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command Transportation Engineering Agency ATTN: SDTE-SA (Railroads for National Defense) 709 Ward Drive, Building 1990 Scott AFB, IL 62225-5357 Robert L Wilson, Jr., Asst. City Manager City of Johnson City 601 East Main Street P.O. Box 2150 Johnson City, TN 37605

U.S. Department of the Interior – National Park Service RTCA Program (Org Code 2240) 1849 C Street, NW Washington, DC 20240

Office of Chief of Forest Service U.S. Department of Agriculture 1400 Independence Ave., SW Washington, DC 20250-003

Tennessee Department of Transportation 505 Deaderick Street Suite 700 Nashville, TN 37243